sides 'No. of cylinders' (in decimal) :Interleave value: (in decimal) @FREE Syntax:
Free [devname] Usage : Displays number of free sectors on a device @GFX
Syntax: RUN GF   ce package for
BASIC09 to do c   2 Syntax: RUN
GFX2([path]{funct   r BASIC09 to
handle enhanced   Syntax: none
Usage : Graphics   ndle graphics/
windowing comm   : Give on-line
help to users will   of help topics
@IDENT Syntax: er information
from OS-9 memo   mory -s = use
single line output -   ns at execution
directory @INIZ Syn   ttach a device
@INKEY Syntax: RUN INKEY([path],strvar) Usage : BASIC09 subroutine to
input a s   abort to
the proc   k to a

AUSTRALIAN OS9 NEWSLETTER

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memory   ents of
text files   into
memory   new
directory   mory
module d   Syntax:
Merge   utput
@MFREE   mory
@MODP   ule in
memory   s -c =
compare   = link
to module   verify
module M = mask IROs U = unmask IROs @MONTYPE Syntax: Montype [opt]
Usage : Set m   monitor m =
monochrome m   ge : Creates
and links an OS   CS Syntax:
Procs [e] Usage   Opts : e =
display all pro   Prints the
current data d   the current
execution direct   w filename>
Usage : Gives   Runb <i-code
module> Usage   ntax: Setime
[yy/mm/dd/hh:r   ck @SETPR
Syntax: Setpr <   process to
num @SHELL S   interpreter
@TMODE Syntax: Tmode [.pathname] [params] Usage : Displays or changes

the ope   r /p>
[value]   link
<modna   tax:
W create [opt] of two = -c type] <pos <pos <sz <sz [col bor four] Usage :
initialize and create windows Opts : -? = display help -z = read command lines
from stdin -s=type = set screen type for a window on a new screen @XMODE

This edition of our newsletter brings us close to the end of the third year of production from sunny Queensland. Our next (August) edition will complete the three years, and it is now time to start thinking of the new subscription year.

Members wishing to re-subscribe will need to do so before the end of August. We will maintain the same subscription rate of $18.00 for the coming year. That's no increase for four years!! How is that? This has been made possible by the number of $2 copy fees received for public domain material.

Current membership is 63 and we suspect that some of you will not wish to renew as you have moved to some other computer type and operating system. However, we will require a minimum of 20 members to make it worthwhile continuing.

Some of you have joined the OS9 Usergroup only recently and we should have supplied you with back issues from September 1990. I have slipped up more than once in this regard, so if we still owe you any back issues, please drop me a line and I will correct the situation. Any new subscribers from now on will be treated as members for the year commencing September 1991 and will be added to the mailing list immediately. This may mean one or two free issues, but it is just too difficult to maintain an endless supply of back issues. Back issues will now only be available as disk files.

A membership application/renewal form is included with this newsletter.

PUBLIC DOMAIN LIBRARY
Just a reminder that we have a database of the P.D. library, UGCAT (UserGroup Catalogue) which is available on CoCo OS9 format floppy and Atari 3.5 format.

Both versions of UGCAT are complete with the Basic09 (CoCo OS9) or Basic (OSK) "Lookup" programme by Bob Devries. Please send requests to our Librarian together with formatted disk, return postage and $2 copy fee.

The P.D. library as it stands is in "ar" archives and comprises eleven 80 track D.S. (720k) disks.

IN THIS EDITION
A Basic09 Tutorial by Bob Devries - Part 2

"C" Tutorial - Continued.

FREE - A version by Mark Griffith - Part 2

We also have an update to the Newsletter CONTENTS listing. This is very handy if you are looking for a previous article.

We are most grateful to those members who have contributed articles for publication in these pages and encourage all members to "have a go" regardless of your experience level. Some newer Usergroup members are just starting the OS9 experience and will need some help. I am sure that many of us could tell a long story about our early frustrations and experiences, so how about a few tips for those new users.

I have received a few queries from members in trouble with some applications which have not yet been answered. Please be patient, we will get there.

                                    Cheers, Gordon.

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A Basic09 Tutorial
by Bob Devries

Here is the BASIC code for the numbersquare programme from 'Microcomputing', June 1981. It is written in vanilla BASIC, but is suitable for Extended Colour Basic with minor modifications, in lines 140,490, 760, 920, 960 and 1450. Can you work out what to change? (Note please that a colon is used instead of a REM)

```
0010 : Number square game
0020 : ver 4.0 - 12 nov 79
0030 : Marc I. Leavey, M.D.
0040 LINE= 0
0050 DIGITS= 0
0060 PRINT "N U M B E R   S Q U A R E S"
0070 PRINT "---------------------------"
0080 PRINT
0090 PRINT "WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF"
0100 PRINT "CONFUSION.  THERE ARE TWO"
0110 PRINT "VERSIONS OF NUMBER SQUARES:"
0120 PRINT " 1 - SEQUENTIAL"
0130 PRINT " 2 - MAGIC SQUARE"
0140 INPUT "WHICH IS YOUR PLEASURE",T
0150 IF T=1 GOTO 310
0160 IF T<>2 GOTO 140
0170 :
0180 : SET UP MAGIC
0190 : SQUARE BOARD
0200 :
0210 FOR I=1 TO 4
0220 FOR J=1 TO 4
0230 READ M(I,J)
0240 LET B(I,J)=M(I,J)
0250 NEXT J
0260 NEXT I
0270 DATA 1,6,15,8,12,11,2,5,10,13,4,3,7,16,9,14
0280 LET I1=4
0290 LET J1=2
0300 GOTO 440
0310 :
0320 : SET UP SEQUENTIAL
0330 : BOARD
0340 :
0350 DIM B(4,4)
0360 FOR I=1 TO 4
0370 FOR J=1 TO 4
0380 LET B(I,J)=(I-1)*4+J
0390 NEXT J
0400 NEXT I
0410 LET I1=4
0420 LET J1=4
0430 :
0440 : NOW SCRAMBLE THE BOARD
0450 : TWO HUNDRED TIMES
0460 :
0470 PRINT "I AM NOW SCRAMBLING THE BOARD..."
0480 FOR Q=1 TO 200
0490 LET M=INT(1+RND*4)
0500 ON M GOTO 510,560,610,660
0510 IF I1=1 GOTO 490
0520 LET B(I1,J1)=B(I1-1,J1)
0530 LET B(I1-1,J1)=16
0540 LET I1=I1-1
0550 GOTO 700
0560 IF I1=4 GOTO 490
0570 LET B(I1,J1)=B(I1+1,J1)
0580 LET B(I1+1,J1)=16
0590 LET I1=I1+1
0600 GOTO 700
0610 IF J1=1 GOTO 490
0620 LET B(I1,J1)=B(I1,J1-1)
0630 LET B(I1,J1-1)=16
0640 LET J1=J1-1
0650 GOTO 700
0660 IF J1=4 GOTO 490
0670 LET B(I1,J1)=B(I1,J1+1)
0680 LET B(I1,J1+1)=16
0690 LET J1=J1+1
0700 NEXT Q
0710 :
0720 : PRINT BOARD
0730 :
0740 LET M9=0
0750 : OUTPUT A "HOME UP"
0760 PRINT CHR$(16);
0770 PRINT "--------------------"
0780 FOR I=1 TO 4
0790 FOR J=1 TO 4
0800 PRINT": ";
0810 IF B(I,J)=16 PRINT "  ";:GOTO 840
0820 IF B(I,J)<10 PRINT " ";
0830 PRINT B(I,J);
0840 NEXT J
0850 PRINT ":"
0860 PRINT "--------------------"
0870 NEXT I
0880 :
0890 : ERASE REST OF SCREEN AND
0900 : BEEP FOR INPUT
0910 :
0920 PRINT CHR$(22);CHR$(7);CHR$(7);
0930 :
0940 : INPUT MOVE
0950 :
0960 INPUT "MOVE WHICH PIECE",M
0970 LET I1=0:J1=0
0980 FOR I=1 TO 4
0990 FOR J=1 TO 4
1000 IF B(I,J)=M THEN I1=I:J1=J
```

```
1010 NEXT J
1020 NEXT I
1030 IF I1=0 THEN PRINT "I CAN'T FIND THAT
NUMBER":GOTO 940
1040 LET I2=0:J2=0
1050 FOR I=I1-1 TO I1+1
1060 IF I>4 GOTO 1090
1070 IF I<1 GOTO 1090
1080 IF B(I,J1)=16 THEN I2=I:J2=J1:GOTO 1170
1090 NEXT I
1100 FOR J=J1-1 TO J1+1
1110 IF J>4 GOTO 1140
1120 IF J<1 GOTO 1140
1130 IF B(I1,J)=16 THEN I2=I1:J2=J:GOTO 1170
1140 NEXT J
1150 LET M9=M9+1
1160 PRINT "NOT A VALID MOVE":GOTO 940
1170 LET B(I2,J2)=M
1180 LET B(I1,J1)=16
1190 ON T GOTO 1210,1320
1200 :
1210 : SEQUENTIAL SOLUTION
1220 :
1230 LET C=0
1240 FOR I=1 TO 4
1250 FOR J=1 TO 4
1260 IF B(I,J)<C GOTO 720
1270 LET C=B(I,J)
1280 NEXT J
1290 NEXT I
1300 PRINT "YOU GOT IT!"
1310 GOTO 1450
1320 :
1330 : MAGIC SQUARE SOLUTION
1340 : CHECK
1350 :
1360 FOR I=1 TO 4
1370 FOR J=1 TO 4
1380 IF B(I,J)<>M(I,J) GOTO 720
1390 NEXT J
1400 NEXT I
1410 :
1420 : A WIN IS DECLARED!
1430 :
1440 PRINT "THAT IS THE CORRECT SOLUTION!"
1450 INPUT "LIKE TO PLAY ANOTHER GAME",I$
1460 IF LEFT$(I$,1)="Y" THEN RUN
1470 END
```

The game is a fairly simple one based on the use
of multi-dimensioned arrays. Note the use of
colons at the beginning of REM lines, which is
also possible in DECB. Now comes the tricky
part, the conversion to Basic09. Firstly I'll
show you the code as I rewrote it, then I will
explain it.

```
PROCEDURE numbersquare
BASE 1
(* version 4.0 - 12 NOV 79
(* Marc I. Leavey, MD
(* Basic09 version By Bob Devries April 91
DIM t:INTEGER
DIM i,j:INTEGER
DIM b(4,4):INTEGER
DIM i1,j1:INTEGER
DIM q,m,m9,c:INTEGER
DIM mm(4,4):INTEGER
DIM lop:BOOLEAN
DIM valid:BOOLEAN
DIM solution:BOOLEAN
DIM newgame:BOOLEAN
SHELL "tmode -pause"
newgame=TRUE
WHILE newgame=TRUE DO
PRINT CHR$(12);
PRINT "N U M B E R   S Q U A R E S"
PRINT "---------------------------"
PRINT
PRINT "Welcome to the world of"
PRINT "confusion. There are two"
PRINT "versions of number squares:"
PRINT " 1 - sequential"
PRINT " 2 - Magic Square"
INPUT "Which is your pleasure ? ",t
IF t=1 THEN
RUN setupssb(b,i1,j1)
ELSE
RUN setupmsb(b,mm,i1,j1)
ENDIF
PRINT "I am now scrambling the board..."
FOR q=1 TO 200
lop=FALSE
WHILE lop=FALSE DO
m=1+RND(3)
IF m=1 THEN
IF i1<>1 THEN
b(i1,j1)=b(i1-1,j1)
b(i1-1,j1)=16
i1=i1-1
lop=TRUE
ENDIF
ENDIF
IF m=2 THEN
IF i1<>4 THEN
b(i1,j1)=b(i1+1,j1)
b(i1+1,j1)=16
i1=i1+1
lop=TRUE
ENDIF
ENDIF
IF m=3 THEN
IF j1<>1 THEN
b(i1,j1)=b(i1,j1-1)
```

```
b(i1,j1-1)=16
j1=j1-1
lop=TRUE
ENDIF
ENDIF
IF m=4 THEN
IF j1<>4 THEN
b(i1,j1)=b(i1,j1+1)
b(i1,j1+1)=16
j1=j1+1
lop=TRUE
ENDIF
ENDIF
ENDWHILE
NEXT q
(* print board line 720
solution=FALSE
REPEAT
m9=0
RUN gfx2("cwarea",29,12,22,12)
PRINT "-----------------"
FOR i=1 TO 4
FOR j=1 TO 4
PRINT ": ";
IF b(i,j)=16 THEN
PRINT "  ";
ELSE
IF b(i,j)<10 THEN
PRINT " ";
ENDIF
PRINT b(i,j);
ENDIF
NEXT j
PRINT ":"
PRINT "-----------------"
NEXT i
(* input move
valid=FALSE
WHILE valid=FALSE DO
i1=0
j1=0
WHILE i1=0 DO
RUN gfx2("bell")
INPUT "Move which piece ? ",m
IF m=0 THEN
RUN gfx2("cwarea",0,0,80,24)
PRINT CHR$(12)
SHELL "tmode pause"
END
ENDIF
FOR i=1 TO 4
FOR j=1 TO 4
IF b(i,j)=m THEN
i1=i
j1=j
ENDIF
NEXT j
```

```
NEXT i
IF i1=0 THEN
PRINT "I can't find that number"
ENDIF
ENDWHILE
i2=0
j2=0
FOR i=i1-1 TO i1+1
IF i>=1 AND i<=4 THEN
EXITIF b(i,j1)=16 THEN
i2=i
j2=j1
valid=TRUE
ENDEXIT
ENDIF
NEXT i
IF valid=FALSE THEN
FOR j=j1-1 TO j1+1
IF j>=1 AND j<=4 THEN
EXITIF b(i1,j)=16 THEN
i2=i1
j2=j
valid=TRUE
ENDEXIT
ENDIF
NEXT j
ENDIF
IF valid=FALSE THEN
m9=m9+1
PRINT "Not a valid move"
ENDIF
ENDWHILE
b(i2,j2)=m
b(i1,j1)=16
IF t=1 THEN
c=0
FOR i=1 TO 4
FOR j=1 TO 4
IF b(i,j)<c THEN (* reprint board
solution=FALSE
ENDIF
c=b(i,j)
NEXT j
NEXT i
IF solution=TRUE THEN
PRINT "You got it!"
ENDIF
ENDIF
IF t=2 THEN
FOR i=1 TO 4
FOR j=1 TO 4
IF b(i,j)<>mm(i,j) THEN (* reprint board
solution=FALSE
ENDIF
NEXT j
NEXT i
IF solution=TRUE THEN
```

```
PRINT "That is the correct solution!"
ENDIF
ENDIF
UNTIL solution=TRUE
INPUT "Like to play another game ? ",i$
IF LEFT$(i$,1)="n" THEN (* rerun game
newgame=FALSE
ENDIF
ENDWHILE
RUN gfx2("cwarea",0,0,80,24)
SHELL "tmode pause"
END

PROCEDURE setupssb
BASE 1
PARAM b(4,4):INTEGER
PARAM i1,j1:INTEGER
DIM i,j:INTEGER
FOR i=1 TO 4
FOR j=1 TO 4
b(i,j)=(i-1)*4+j
NEXT j
NEXT i
i1=4
j1=4

PROCEDURE setupmsb
BASE 1
PARAM b(4,4),mm(4,4):INTEGER
PARAM i1,j1:INTEGER
DIM i,j:INTEGER
FOR i=1 TO 4
FOR j=1 TO 4
READ mm(i,j)
b(i,j)=mm(i,j)
NEXT j
NEXT i
i1=4
j1=2
DATA 1,6,15,8,12,11,2,5,10,13,4,3,7,16,9,14
```

OK, so here we go. First, I used the command BASE 1. This is because all the arrays in the BASIC programme start at 1, and Basic09 usually starts at zero (actually, BASIC does too, but I see no reason to waste valuable memory). Next, I dimensioned all the variables and arrays, including a variable type which you may not have seen before, the BOOLEAN type. This variable may only contain either TRUE or FALSE! I used the SHELL command to turn off the OS9 screen pause, so that the programme won't sit there waiting at what it thinks is the end of a screen. That can get a bit confusing!

The next thing you must realise is that I have used NO LINE NUMBERS! This is really the best

way to programme. Sure, Basic09 will allow their use, but the code is much more elegant without them, if a little more difficult to write. I set up a loop to allow the choice of whether to play another game which is done in line 1450 in the BASIC version. I used a WHILE loop here so that all I need to do is make a variable FALSE to exit the loop.

Next, after clearing the screen (printing a formfeed character), I print the opening message and ask the player for his choice of game. This follows through to line 160 of the BASIC programme. On the basis of the player's answer I RUN either the procedure 'setupssb' or 'setupmsb'. You may notice a slight variation here, I only tested for a '1' to select sequential, and any other key would run the magic square option. Then the next 38 lines do the same as lines 480 to 700 in the BASIC programme. You will notice that the BASIC programme uses quite a large number of GOTOs in this piece of code to break out of various parts of the code to continue the FOR-NEXT loop. I simply set a variable (lop) to TRUE and again used a WHILE loop. All the other variables have the same names, although you can of course use any name, and are not limited to two significant characters as in BASIC.

To make the screen easier to display, I used in this case a gfx2 command 'cwarea'. This command limits the area of the screen to be printed to, and means I don't need to use cursor manoeuvering code at every print line. I simply re-sized the screen to a 22 by 12 character box in approximately the middle of the (80 by 24) screen. So next I print the scrambled array to the screen with one space so that pieces may be moved around. The game is played by entering the number of the square which you want to move into the space. The programme checks to see if the number is one of the ones adjoining the space. A tone is sounded, and you are prompted for input. Pretty standard here, 'though I could just have used 'PRINT CHR$(7)', but the gfx2 'bell' command is nicer. If the player enters zero, the programme resets the screen back to its 80 by 24 size, and clears the screen and quits.

The rest of the code is fairly straight forward, again the original uses many GOTOs to quit out of FOR-NEXT loops (not a good practice in my opinion even in BASIC), and I have used boolean tests for this purpose. For every move made, the programme checks the array against the solution, and if the last move solves the puzzle it

prints the relevant result.

One of the hardest parts of the conversion is keeping track of the variables, and the various loops. Basic09 is a bit unforgiving about 'UNMATCHED CONTROL STRUCTURES' so you can't stop doing a conversion such as this in the middle, without generating a series of error messages when you quit the editor. One way around this is to use a text editor (like VED or SCRED or SLED) to create the source code first, and then to load it into Basic09. The only thing you MUST do in this case is to make the word 'PROCEDURE' in UPPERCASE the FIRST WORD in the file. The letter P of procedure must be the first character in

one file, or Basic09 will not recognize it.

OK, so there you have it. I would love to hear from you regarding your own trials and tribulations with Basic09 programmes, even if you don't really want to start out on conversions of this type, but are having difficulties managing some aspect of Basic09. Please write to me care of the newsletter editor, and let 'Professor Bob' help sharpen your programming skills.

Regards,
Bob Devries

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Chapter 2 - Getting started in C
YOUR FIRST C PROGRAM

[ED: The text for this tutorial mentions some C programmes. These are not reproduced here, but are available on our Public Domain disk number 11]

The best way to get started with C is to actually look at a program, so load the file named TRIVIAL.C into your editor and display it on the monitor. You are looking at the simplest possible C program. There is no way to simplify this program or to leave anything out. Unfortunately, the program doesn't do anything. The word "main" is very important, and must appear once, and only once in every C program. This is the point where execution is begun when the program is run. We will see later that this does not have to be the first statement in the program but it must exist as the entry point.

Following the "main" program name is a pair of parentheses which are an indication to the compiler that this is a function. We will cover exactly what a function is in due time. For now, I suggest that you simply include the pair of parentheses. The two curly brackets, properly called braces, are used to define the limits of the program itself. The actual program statements go between the two braces and in this case, there are no statements because the program does absolutely nothing. You can compile and run this program, but since it has no executable statements, it does nothing. Keep in mind however, that it is a valid C program.

A PROGRAM THAT DOES SOMETHING

For a much more interesting program, load the program named WRTSOME.C and display it on your monitor. It is the same as the previous

program except that it has one executable statement between the braces. The executable statement is another function. Once again, we will not worry about what a function is, but only how to use this one. In order to output text to the monitor, it is put within the function parentheses and bounded by quotation marks. The end result is that whatever is included between the quotation marks will be displayed on the monitor when the program is run. Notice the semi-colon at the end of the line. C uses a semi-colon as a statement terminator, so the semi-colon is required as a signal to the compiler that this line is complete. This program is also executable, so you can compile and run it to see if it does what you think it should.

ANOTHER PROGRAM WITH MORE OUTPUT

Load the program WRTMORE.C and display it on your monitor for an example of more output and another small but important concept. You will see that there are four program statements in this program, each one being a "printf" function statement. The top line will be executed first, then the next, and so on, until the fourth line is complete. The statements are executed in order from top to bottom. Notice the funny character near the end of the first line, namely the backslash. The backslash is used in the printf statement to indicate a special control character is following. In this case, the "n"

indicates that a new line is requested. This is an indication to return the cursor to the left side of the monitor and move down one line. It is commonly referred to as a carriage return/line feed. Any place within text that you desire, you can put a newline character and start a new line. You could even put it in the middle of a word and split the word between two lines. The C compiler considers the combination of the backslash and letter n as one character.

A complete description of this program is now possible. The first printf outputs a line of text and returns the carriage. The second printf outputs a line but does not return the carriage so the third line is appended to that of the second, then followed by two carriage returns, resulting in a blank line. Finally the fourth printf outputs a line followed by a carriage return and the program is complete. Compile and run this program to see if it does what you expect it to do. It would be a good idea at this time for you to experiment by adding additional lines of printout to see if you understand how the statements really work.

LETS PRINT SOME NUMBERS

Load the file named ONEINT.C and display it on the monitor for our first example of how to work with data in a C program. The entry point "main" should be clear to you by now as well as the beginning brace. The first new thing we encounter is the line containing "int index;", which is used to define an integer variable named "index". The "int" is a reserved word in C, and can therefore not be used for anything else. It defines a variable that can have a value from -32768 to 32767 on most microcomputer implementations of C. Consult your users manual for the exact definition for your compiler. The variable name, "index", can be any name that follows the rules for an identifier and is not one of the reserved words for C. Consult your manual for an exact definition of an identifier for your compiler. The final character on the line, the semi-colon, is the statement terminator used in C.

We will see in a later chapter that additional integers could also be defined on the same line, but we will not complicate the present situation. Observing the main body of the program, you will notice that there are three statements that assign a value to the variable "index", but only one at a time. The first one assigns the value of 13 to "index",

and its value is printed out. (We will see how shortly.) Later, the value of 17 is assigned to "index", and finally 10 is assigned to it, each value being printed out. It should be intuitively clear that "index" is indeed a variable and can store many different values. Please note that many times the words "printed out" are used to mean "displayed on the monitor". You will find that in many cases experienced programmers take this liberty, probably due to the "printf" function being used for monitor display.

HOW DO WE PRINT NUMBERS

To keep our promise, let's return to the "printf" statements for a definition of how they work. Notice that they are all identical and that they all begin just like the "printf" statements we have seen before. The first difference occurs when we come to the % character. This is a special character that signals the output routine to stop copying characters to the output and do something different, namely output a variable. The % sign is used to signal the start of many different types of variables, but we will restrict ourselves to only one for this example. The character following the % sign is a "d", which signals the output routine to get a decimal value and output it. Where the decimal value comes from will be covered shortly. After the "d", we find the familiar \n, which is a signal to return the video "carriage", and the closing quotation mark.

All of the characters between the quotation marks define the pattern of data to be output by this statement, and after the pattern, there is a comma followed by the variable name "index". This is where the "printf" statement gets the decimal value which it will output because of the "%d" we saw earlier. We could add more "%d" output field descriptors within the brackets and more variables following the description to cause more data to be printed with one statement. Keep in mind however, that it is important that the number of field descriptors and the number of variable definitions must be the same or the runtime system will get confused and probably quit with a runtime error. Much more will be covered at a later time on all aspects of input and output formatting. A reasonably good grasp of this topic is necessary in order to understand the following lessons. It is not necessary to understand everything about output formatting at this time, only a

fair understanding of the basics. Compile and run ONEINT.C and observe the output.

HOW DO WE ADD COMMENTS IN C

Load the file COMMENTS.C and observe it on your monitor for an example of how comments can be added to a C program. Comments are added to make a program more readable to you but the compiler must ignore the comments. The slash star combination is used in C for comment delimiters. They are illustrated in the program at hand. Please note that the program does not illustrate good commenting practice, but is intended to illustrate where comments can go in a program. It is a very sloppy looking program. The first slash star combination introduces the first comment and the star slash at the end of the first line terminates this comment. Note that this comment is prior to the beginning of the program illustrating that a comment can precede the program itself. Good programming practice would include a comment prior to the program with a short introductory description of the program. The next comment is after the "main()" program entry point and prior to the opening brace for the program code itself. The third comment starts after the first executable statement and continues for four lines. This is perfectly legal because a comment can continue for as many lines as desired until it is terminated.

Note carefully that if anything were included in the blank spaces to the left of the three continuation lines of the comment, it would be part of the comment and would not be compiled. The last comment is located following the completion of the program, illustrating that comments can go nearly anywhere in a C program. Experiment with this program by adding comments in other places to see what will happen. Comment out one of the printf statements by putting comment delimiters both before and after it and see that it does not get printed out. Comments are very important in any programming language because you will soon forget what you did and why you did it. It will be much easier to modify or fix a well commented program a year from now than one with few or no comments. You will very quickly develop your own personal

style of commenting. Some compilers allow you to "nest" comments which can be very handy if you need to "comment out" a section of code during debugging. Check your compiler documentation for the availability of this feature with you particular compiler. Compile and run COMMENTS.C at this time.

GOOD FORMATTING STYLE

Load the file GOODFORM.C and observe it on your monitor. It is an example of a well formatted program. Even though it is very short and therefore does very little, it is very easy to see at a glance what it does. With the experience you have already gained in this tutorial, you should be able to very quickly grasp the meaning of the program in it's entirety. Your C compiler ignores all extra spaces and all carriage returns giving you considerable freedom concerning how you format your program. Indenting and adding spaces is entirely up to you and is a matter of personal taste. Compile and run the program to see if it does what you expect it to do.

Now load and display the program UGLYFORM.C and observe it. How long will it take you to figure out what this program will do? It doesn't matter to the compiler which format style you use, but it will matter to you when you try to debug your program. Compile this program and run it. You may be surprised to find that it is the same program as the last one, except for the formatting. Don't get too worried about formatting style yet. You will have plenty of time to develop a style of your own as you learn the language. Be observant of styles as you see C programs in magazines, books, and other publications. This should pretty well cover the basic concepts of programming in C, but as there are many other things to learn, we will forge ahead to additional program structure.

PROGRAMMING EXERCISES

1. Write a program to display your name on the monitor.
2. Modify the program to display your address and phone number on separate lines by adding two additional "printf" statements.

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FREE - A bug-free version
written by Mark Griffith et al
Part 2

[ED: This source code sample has come to us via the BitNet message system, from Mark Griffith.]

```
vol40    leax   -1,x
         beq    vol45

         exg    d,y
         addd   overflow,u
         exg    d,y
         addd   ,s
         bcc    vol40
         leay   1,y
         bra    vol40


* BRI:  clean up free clusters LSBs and old bytes in sector loop counter
vol45    leas   3,s        cleanup
*vol45   leas   2,s        cleanup

         std    nfree+2,u  Free sectors, low order
         sty    nfree,u    Free sectors, high order


*  Print volume status info  *

prnvol   lbsr   crlf
         leax   msg0,pcr   Point to "Volume; "
         bsr    pmsg       and print it
         lda    #$20       append a space
         bsr    listch     print that
         lda    #'"        Now a quote
         bsr    listch     print that
         leax   volname,u  Point to disk name
         bsr    pmsg       and print that
         lda    #'"        end with a quote
         bsr    listch     print that
         bsr    crlf       go to new line
         bsr    crlf       and another
         leax   msg3,pcr   Point to " Total: "
         lbsr   pmsg       print it
         leax   total,u    Point to Total Sectors
         bsr    dblprez    Get the ASCII number
         leax   msg1,pcr   Point to " sectors ("
         lbsr   pmsg       print it
         leax   total,u    Point to bytes total
         ldd    1,x        multiply by 256
         std    ,x
         lda    3,x
         sta    2,x
         clr    3,x
         bsr    dblprez    Get the ASCII number
         leax   msg2,pcr   Point to " bytes)"
         bsr    pmsg       and print
         bsr    crlf       Print a newline
         leax   msg4,pcr   Point to " Free: "
         lbsr   pmsg       print it
```

```
        leax  nfree,u     Point to sectors free
        bsr   dblprez     Get the ASCII number
        leax  msg1,pcr    Point to " sectors ("
        bsr   pmsg        print it
        leax  nfree,u     Point to bytes free
        ldd   1,x         multiply by 256
        std   ,x
        lda   3,x
        sta   2,x
        clr   3,x
        bsr   dblprez     Get the ASCII number
        leax  msg2,pcr    Point to " bytes)"
        bsr   pmsg        and print that too
        bsr   crlf        Do a couple newlines
        clrb              No errors
        lbra  exit        Finish up

        pag
************************************
*
*       Subroutines
*

* Print strings *

pmsg    pshs  a,x
pmsg2   lda   ,x+
        beq   pmsg9
        bsr   listch
        tst   -1,x
        bpl   pmsg2
pmsg9   puls  a,x,pc

*  Send character in reg A to output  *

listch  pshs  d,x,y
        tfr   a,b
        bra   sendc1

crlf    pshs  d,x,y
        ldb   #$0d
        bra   sendc1

sendc   pshs  d,x,y
sendc1  andb  #$7f
        pshs  b
        tfr   s,x
        ldy   #1
        lda   #1
        os9   i$writln
        leas  1,s
sendc9  puls  d,x,y,pc

        pag
**************************************
* Double precision 192 bit binary to ASCII
*  In: (X) -> n  of 32 bits
```

*

```
hil6      equ     0
lol6      equ     2
digval    equ     4
dbliter   equ     5
dblzflg   equ     6
dblzch    equ     7
frames    set     dblzch+1

dblprez   pshs    d,x,y
          clra
          bra     db100
dblpre    PSHS    D,X,Y
          lda     #$20
db100     leas    -frames,s
          sta     dblzch,S
          ldd     hil6,x
          std     hil6,s
          ldd     lol6,x
          std     lol6,s

          lda     #dblitk     # powers within table
          sta     dbliter,s   loop iteration count
          leax    dbltbl,pcr  highest 10^n
          clr     dblzflg,s

db110     lda     #'0
          sta     digval,s

db120     ldd     lol6,S      low 16 of N
          subd    lol6,X      minus 10^i
          tfr     d,y
          ldd     hil6,s
          sbcb    hil6+1,X
          sbca    hil6,X
          bcs     db130       subtract successful?
          sty     lol6,s      yes, save hi
          std     hil6,s      and low
          inc     digval,s
          bra     db120

db130     dec     dbliter,s   iteration count
          beq     db131       if last, must send a digit
          lda     digval,s    update leading 0 suppression
          suba    #'0
          ora     dblzflg,s
          sta     dblzflg,s
          bne     db131
          lda     dblzch,s    get leading 0 suppressor
          beq     db132       if none
          sta     digval,s    space

db131     pshs    x           save tbl pointer
          leax    digval+2,s  space or digit
          ldy     #1
          lda     #1
```

*

```
        os9    i$write
        puls   x
db132   leax   4,x        next
        tst    dbliter,S  maybe all done
        bne    dbl10      next power of ten


dbl80   leas   frames,s
        puls   d,x,y,pc


dbltbl

        fdb    $3B9A,$CA00 one billion

        fdb    $05F5,$E100 hundred million
        fdb    $0098,$9680 ten million
        fdb    $000F,$4240 one million

        fdb    $0001,$86A0 hundred thousand
        fdb    $0000,$2710 ten thousand
        fdb    $0000,$03E8 one thousand

        fdb    $0000,$0064 one hundred
        fdb    $0000,$000A ten
        fdb    $0000,$0001 one
dblitk  equ    (*-dbltbl)/4

*  Static Strings  *

msg0    fcs    "Volume: "
msg1    fcs    " sectors ("
msg2    fcs    " bytes) "
msg3    fcs    " Total: "
msg4    fcs    " Free:  "


        emod
endmod  equ    *
        end
```

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OS9 Newsletter CONTENTS April '90 to June '91

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